

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 705

By Doss

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Dr. Theodore "Ted" R. Brown upon the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Dr. Theodore "Ted" R. Brown, who served as the president of Martin Methodist College from 1998 until 2016 and recently embarked upon a well-earned retirement; and

WHEREAS, a native of southern New Jersey, Ted Brown grew up as an active member of the United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, in 1973, he graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan College with a degree in philosophy; thereafter, he began working on that campus in admissions, eventually serving as assistant director; and

WHEREAS, following a year on the staff of Jay Rockefeller's successful gubernatorial campaign in 1976, Ted Brown enrolled in the Divinity School at Vanderbilt University, where he earned his master of divinity degree in 1979; remaining at the institution for his Ph.D. work, he earned his doctorate in 1987, focusing on the field of higher education administration. Dr. Brown did post-doctoral study at Harvard University in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brown has served as a research assistant at the United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry, assistant dean and director of development at Vanderbilt Divinity School, and director of development at Centre College; and

WHEREAS, immediately prior to assuming the helm at Martin Methodist College, Dr. Brown served as vice president for college advancement at Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina, for thirteen years; and

WHEREAS, as the thirtieth president of Martin Methodist College, Ted Brown spearheaded various initiatives, among them Martin 2010, a ten-year plan to transform the institution, which resulted in significant advancements in academic programming, student enrollment, and church involvement; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Brown's leadership, Martin Methodist College saw student enrollment double from 500 to over 1,000, campus increase in size from eighteen acres to sixty acres, and options for academic majors increase from four to thirty-eight. It was also during his tenure that the W. Garie Taylor Honors Program, a graduate program, and an international studies program were established; and

WHEREAS, he also helped develop the state-of-the-art East Campus Athletic Complex; supported the college's involvement and partnership with South Central Tennessee Reconnect and The South Central Tennessee Workforce Alliance, with which the college collaborated on the Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP) grant; and generally increased awareness of Martin Methodist College regionally, nationally, and globally; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary career as a higher education administrator, Dr. Brown has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community and this State; and

WHEREAS, Ted Brown has been blessed with the love of his wife, Cheryl Kiser Brown, and their two sons, Ted and Tyler; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. Brown has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the sincere respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby extend to Dr. Theodore "Ted" R. Brown our heartfelt wishes for

a happy and fulfilling retirement, as we pay tribute to his exemplary tenure as president of Martin Methodist College, salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.